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(43) **Pub. Date: Feb. 21, 2008**(54) **METHOD OF MAKING SECURE ON-LINE FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**(52) **U.S. Cl. .... 705/40**(76) **Inventor: Frank Easterly, Midlothian, VA (US)**(57) **ABSTRACT**

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A method of providing secure financial transactions using the internet creates virtual currency that is used to settle monetary obligations amongst authorized purchasers, merchants, and other financial operators. The network operator maintains available funds in pooled fund accounts at various financial institutions, and uses those funds to purchase and sell virtual currency that may then be used on-line. Actual monetary transfers take place between pooled accounts using traditional automated clearing house (ACH) networks, pursuant to instructions provided to financial institutions by the network operator. User authentication and authorization are provided through a dual registration process, and a user's identity may be authenticated using a physical medium or a PIN. Instructions may be given remotely to the network operator through cellular telephones and PDAs.

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